



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

9 AUGUST 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Concord – First Prison Sentence Handed Down in Federal Concord Sureño Bust

(U) A 31-year-old Concord man was sentenced to two-years in federal prison for gang-related drug dealing, becoming the first person to receive such a sentence since he and dozens of other alleged Sureño gang members were arrested last year. Brian Alvarenga was one of a dozen alleged members of a Concord-based Sureño subset to be brought up on federal charges, in a federal and state operation that also resulted in murder charges being filed against other suspected gang members in Contra Costa County. Alvarenga pleaded guilty to a methamphetamine distribute charge, but prosecutors described him in court records as part of a sophisticated gang operation that “took over” a shopping center in Concord and turned it into a “one stop shop” for guns, heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine.

SOURCE: 8 August 2021, [The Mercury News](#)

(U) La Habra – Suspect Fatally Shot, Officer Critically Wounded Outside Police Station

(U) One person was killed and a police officer wounded in a shooting outside the entrance of the La Habra police station in northwestern Orange County. La Habra police said that officers responded to the front entrance of the police station regarding a road rage incident. An officer was struck by gunfire and transported to a nearby trauma center. The officer is in critical but stable condition and is expected to recover from his injuries. The individual who was fatally shot by police was the suspect in the incident, and a firearm was recovered at the scene.

SOURCE: 6 August 2021, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) Los Angeles – Former California DEA Agent Indicted on Capitol Riot Charges

(U) A former Drug Enforcement Administration agent from Orange County has been indicted by a grand jury on four federal charges in relation to his involvement outside the US Capitol during the 6 January riot. Mark Sami Ibrahim, 32, was arrested in Washington, 20 July after federal authorities identified him in photos that appear to show him flashing a DEA badge and a firearm while on the Capitol grounds that day. He also was accused of climbing on the Peace Monument to deliver a monologue. The indictment charges him with entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds with a deadly or dangerous weapon, injuries to property, firearms and dangerous weapons on Capitol grounds, and false statements and representations.

SOURCE: 8 August 2021, [The Mercury News](#)

(U) Roseville – Gun Dealer Sentenced for Stealing Police Identities in Order to Sell Illegal Firearms

(U) A former federal arms dealer and gun-control advocate from Placer County who was accused of stealing private information from police clients in a ploy to sell illegal weapons was sentenced to four-years in federal prison. Joseph John Deaser IV, 54, faced up to 20-years after he pleaded guilty in May 2019 to 10 counts involving mail fraud, aggravated identity theft, and false entries and illegal sales as a federal firearms license dealer. Deaser masked the sales of at least 50 off-roster handguns to non-law enforcement customers between December 2014 and April 2018 by attributing the purchases to six officers who bought firearms through the business legitimately.

SOURCE: 5 August 2021, [The Sacramento Bee](#)

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(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – 183-Foot Long Drug Trafficking Tunnel Discovered Near Border

(U) Calexico – Authorities believe drug traffickers dug a 183-foot-long tunnel near the US-Mexico border and outfitted it with electricity, ventilation, a rail system and an electric hoist. US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents and Mexican officials found the tunnel in a home in Mexicali, Baja California. The tunnel was about four-feet by three-feet wide and was 22-feet below the ground. The tunnel came within three-feet of the international border wall but did not reach the United States. SOURCE: 5 August 2021, [KTSM](#)

(U) California – Methamphetamine Bust at Border Crossing Likely Largest in US History

(U) Otay Mesa – Federal authorities made what they called likely the largest methamphetamine bust in United States history, finding more than 5,528-pounds of the drug inside a semitrailer that crossed from Mexico at the Otay Mesa Port of Entry. Agents on Thursday night also found more than 127-pounds of fentanyl inside the commercial truck, which had California license plates and was being driven by a Mexican citizen. The driver, Carlos Gerardo Symonds Saavedra, was charged Friday with two federal felony counts of importing controlled substances into the US. Each count carries a minimum sentence of 10-years in prison and a maximum of life imprisonment.

SOURCE: 7 August 2021, [The Chronicle](#)

(U) Texas – US Border Patrol Agent Uninjured after Being Shot at From Mexico

(U) El Paso – Twenty rounds were fired at a US Border Patrol agent assigned to the Ysleta Border Patrol station as the agent was patrolling the border early Friday morning. The agent, who is assigned to an area east of the Jonathan Rogers Water Treatment Plant heard gunshots near his location and reportedly drove for cover. Cameras reportedly caught two subjects shooting north from the Mexican side of the Rio Grande with what appeared to be a rifle. The shots were fired from about 150 yards away. The two subjects got into a sedan on the Mexican side and drove away.

SOURCE: 8 August 2021, [KTSM](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Illinois – Police Officer Killed, Another in Critical Condition Following Shooting during Traffic Stop

(U) Chicago – One Chicago police officer is dead and another is fighting for his life after they were shot while conducting a traffic stop Saturday night. Three suspects are in custody, Chicago Police Superintendent David Brown said at a news conference Sunday. Three officers assigned to the department's Community Safety Team were conducting a traffic stop on a vehicle with three occupants when they were fired upon. The officers returned fire, and the two officers were struck in the exchange of gunfire. One of the "offenders" was also hit and taken to a local hospital.

SOURCE: 9 August 2021, [CNN](#)

(U) New York – Two Myanmar Men Arrested in US for Plotting to Kill UN Envoy

(U) New York City – Two Myanmar citizens have been arrested in New York state for plotting with an arms dealer in Thailand, who sells weapons to the Burmese military, to kill or injure Myanmar's ambassador to the United Nations. Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun, who represents Myanmar's elected civilian government, which was overthrown by the military in February, said that a threat had been made against him and US authorities had stepped up his security. The US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York said on Friday that Phyo Hein Htut, 28, and Ye Hein Zaw, 20, had each

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been charged with one count of conspiracy to assault and make a violent attack upon a foreign official, which carries a maximum sentence of five-years in prison.

SOURCE: 9 August 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) New York – UN Sounds Warning on Climate Change

(U) New York City – The United Nations panel on climate change told the world on Monday that global warming was dangerously close to being out of control and that humans were "unequivocally" to blame. Already, greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere are high enough to guarantee climate disruption for decades if not centuries, the report from the scientists of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warned. In other words, the deadly heat waves, hurricanes, and other weather extremes that are already happening will only become more severe.

SOURCE: 9 August 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – Taliban Seize Three Afghan Capital Cities in A Day

(U) Kabul – Taliban fighters overran three provincial capitals including the strategic northeastern city of Kunduz on Sunday, local officials said, as the insurgents intensified pressure on the north and threatened further cities. The insurgents have taken dozens of districts and border crossings in recent months and put pressure on several provincial capitals, including Herat in the west and Kandahar in the south, as foreign troops withdraw.

SOURCE: 9 August 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mali – At Least 51 People Killed In Village Raids

(U) Karou – At least 51 people were killed when Islamist militants raided three villages in central Mali near the border with Niger. The towns of Ouatagouna, Karou and Deouteguef were simultaneously attacked around 6 PM on 8 August. No group has yet taken responsibility for the attacks in the area where Malian troops, French and European forces, and United Nations peacekeepers have been battling insurgents linked to the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) and al-Qa'ida.

SOURCE: 9 August 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Oman – Investigative Team Concludes Iran Behind Mercer Street Tanker Attack

(U) Muscat – A US Defense Department expert team concluded that the drone behind the deadly attack on the Mercer Street commercial vessel was produced in Iran. The assault on the Mercer Street, which left two crewmembers dead, has ratcheted up tensions in the region and prompted unified outcry from the G7 coalition of nations, whose foreign ministers placed the blame squarely on Iran and condemned the attack as "a clear violation of international law." The Pentagon's investigative team found that the tanker was targeted on 30 July by an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) "loaded with a military-grade explosive," according to the Central Command statement. It had been targeted the day prior "by two unsuccessful explosive UAV attacks."

SOURCE: 9 August 2021, [CNN](#)

(U) Somalia – DOS Designates Five Terrorist Leaders as Specially Designated Global Terrorists

(U) Mogadishu – The US Department of State (DOS) announced on Friday the designation of five terrorist leaders in Africa as Specially Designated Global Terrorists, media reported on Sunday. Amongst the additions were a senior commander of ISIS-Mozambique and senior leaders of the Mali-based al-Qa'ida branch Jama'at Nasr al-Islam wal Muslimin. Additionally, a spokesman and an operations planner for the terrorist group al-Shabaab were on the list. The DOS designation freezes any assets the

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individuals may have in the US and makes it a crime for anyone to assist them.

SOURCE: 6 August 2021, [US DOS](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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